volume 51:number 2
2018 fall

ROM

MAGAZINE *of the* ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM FALL 2018

THE DAWN OF LIFE

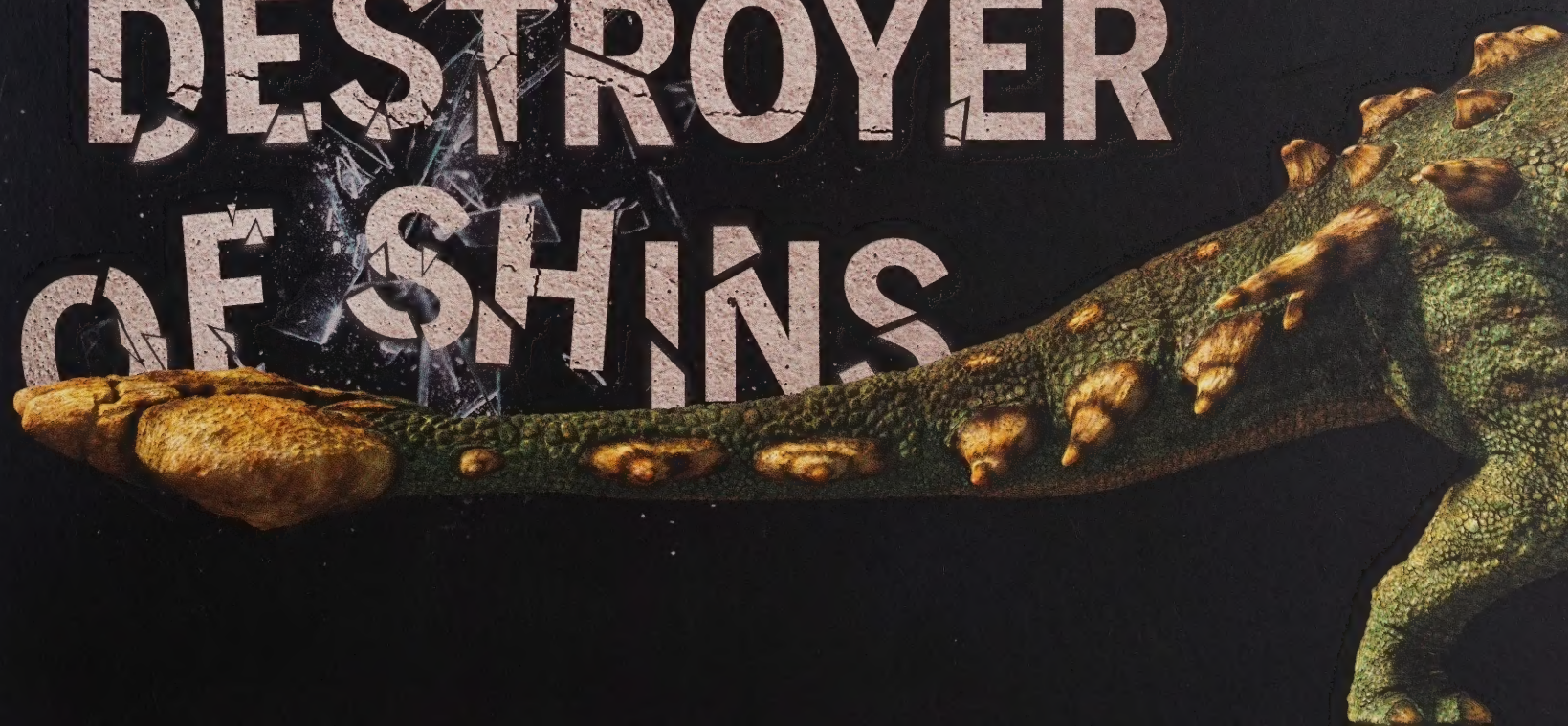
PHILANTHROPIST JEFF WILLNER MAKES A $5-MILLION DONATION TO LAUNCH NEW ROM GALLERY

p. 36

$5.95 CAN
Display until February 28, 2019

JOURNEY THROUGH TIME AT THE ROM'S NEWEST EXHIBITION...

ZUUL, DESTROYER OF SHINS



... PLUS 100 YEARS OF DINOSAURS AT THE ROM

ZUUL:
LIFE OF AN ARMOURED DINOSAUR

15.12.2018
TO
20.05.2019

PRESENTING SPONSOR
SINKING SHIP ENTERTAINMENT

Zuul © Sinking Ship Entertainment Inc.

ON THE COVER
Detail of *Zuul* © Sinking Ship Entertainment.

contents

Fall 2018
volume 52, number 2

volume 51:number 2
2018 fall

departments

3 FIRST WORD
by Josh Basseches

4 WHAT'S ON

5 MEMBER NEWS

8 DISPATCHES

12 ASK AN EXPERT
Meet the spider wranglers

27 ROM STYLE
Holiday shopping at the ROM

28 ROM TRAVEL
Bhutan, Nepal, and Tibet

30 ROM GOVERNORS
Reimagine your legacy

36 NEW GALLERY
The Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life

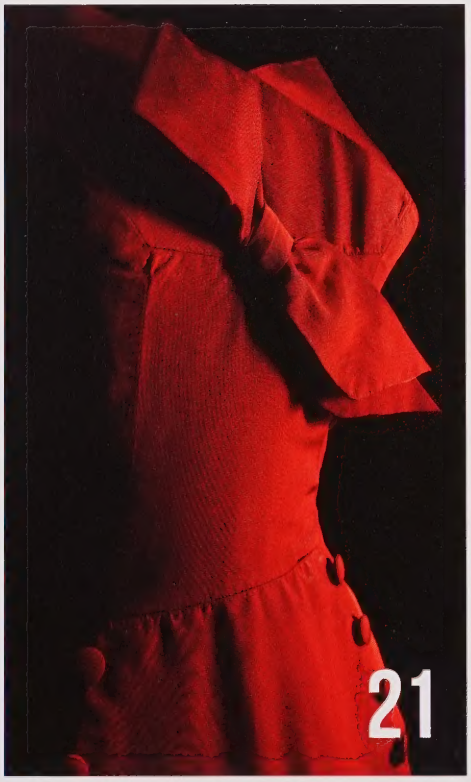
featured stories

21 DIOR
The New Look

24 SPIDERS
The biggest and baddest arachnids at the Museum

COVER STORY

14 ZUUL
A day in the life of *Zuul*, our newest dinosaur



contributors

VICTORIA ARBOUR
CURATOR OF PALAEONTOLOGY (ROYAL BC MUSEUM)

Victoria is the leading expert on the armoured dinosaurs known as ankylosaurs, which are characterized by their extensive bony plating and weaponized clubbed tails.

DAVID EVANS
TEMERTY CHAIR IN VERTEBRATE PALAEONTOLOGY (ROM)

David oversees dinosaur research at the ROM. He is a globally recognized authority on the rich dinosaur fossil record of Canada, and on the mass extinction event that marked the end of the Age of Dinosaurs.

JENNA COSENTINO
MARKETING COORDINATOR

Jenna's work ranges from creative development and campaign executions to copywriting and e-communications. She is the lead marketer for this year's *Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur* exhibition.

HEATHER READ
POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW

Heather was the Rebanks Postdoctoral Fellow at the ROM in the Canadian Decorative Arts from 2017 to 2018. Her research explores intersections of craft, place, and identity.

CONTACT US

Questions? Comments? Email us at magazine@rom.on.ca.

VISIT US

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M5S 2C6
416.586.8000
rom.on.ca
info@rom.on.ca

HOURS
Monday–Sunday:
10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ROM LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
Public hours
Monday–Friday:
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

GENERAL ADMISSION PRICES
ROM Members: FREE*
Children under 3 years: FREE
Children (4 to 14 years): $14
Youth (15 to 19 years): $16.50
Students (with valid ID): $16.50
Seniors (65+): $17
Adults: $20

Feature exhibitions have an additional ticketing fee.

Admission is free on Tuesdays for Canadian post-secondary students with ID.

Museum and Arts Pass Program participant.

**All adult Members must present a valid membership card and photo ID. Membership cards are not transferable except for RPC Members.*

ROM MAGAZINE

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, PR AND PUBLICATIONS
Sally Tindal

HEAD OF PUBLISHING AND CONTENT STRATEGY
Chris Wilson-Smith

ART DIRECTOR
Tara Winterhalt

MANAGING EDITOR
Sheeza Sarfraz

PHOTOGRAPHY
Brian Boyle

Published three times a year through the generosity of the Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust.

© Royal Ontario Museum, 2018.

Indexed in the Canadian Periodical Index and the Canadian Magazine Index, and available online in the Canadian Business & Current Affairs Database ISSN 1911-947X and through Thomson Gale.

Canadian Publications Agreement #40068986.

Subscription cost (three issues) $20 including HST; outside Canada add $8 for postage and handling; single copies cost $5.95 plus HST. Contact Julie Govan at julieg@rom.on.ca to purchase a subscription.

The ROM is an agency of the Government of Ontario.

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C101537
FSC www.fsc.org

ROM magazine is printed on paper from well-managed forests and is chlorine and acid free.

HONORARY PATRONS
Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., O.Q., Governor General of Canada
The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, O.C., O.Ont., Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Martha Durdin (Chair)
Tim Wilson (Vice Chair)
Neera Chopra
Francis Chou
David De Abreu
Rita Shelton Deverell
Alicia Dubois
Deanna Horton
Maureen Jensen
Anne Lindsey
Ian Madell
Liz Mitchell
Kevin Morris
Nita Reed
Ray Sharma

EX-OFFICIO
Josh Basseches
Meric Gertler
Claire Kennedy

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Robert E. Pierce (Chairman)
Tye W. Burt (Vice Chair)
Richard S. Wernham (Vice Chair)
Shreyas Ajmera
Isabel Alves-Vettoretto
Daniel N. Argiros
Jennifer Ivey Bannock
John Bianchini
Stephen Bowman
Bonnie Brooks C.M.
Mary Anne Bueschkens
Michael E. Detlefsen
Victor Dodig
W. Robert Farquharson
Linda Hasenfratz
Christopher W. Jamroz
Robert Keilty
Michael Lee-Chin
Dan Mishra
Ellen J. Moore
Patricia L. Olasker
John Ruffolo
Francis Shen
Stephen Smith
Cathy Spoel
Joseph (Joey) M. Tanenbaum, C.M.
James C. Temerty, C.M.
V. Prem Watsa
R. Browning Watt, Q.C.
Jeff Willner

EX-OFFICIO
Salvatore (Sal) M. Badali
Josh Basseches
Martha Durdin

HONORARY GOVERNORS
Salvatore (Sal) M. Badali (Chairman)
Susanne Loewen (Vice Chair)
Brenda McCutcheon (Vice Chair)
Rudolph (Rudy) Bratty
Jack Cockwell
Fredrik S. Eaton, O.C., O.Ont.
Robert Gillespie
Patricia Harris
Gwen Harvey
Martha J. Hogarth
Richard M. Ivey, C.C., Q.C.
The Hon. Henry N.R. Jackman
Thomas Kierans
Donald R. Lindsay
Elsie Lo
Stephens B. Lowden
Frank Milligan
Dixie Anne Montgomery
Frank Potter
Joan Randall
Jean Read
Wendy Rebanks
Flavia C. Redelmeier
John A. Rhind
Donald M. Ross, O.C.
Harriet Walker
Lynton R. Wilson
Alfred G. Wirth

ROM SENIOR LEADERSHIP
Josh Basseches (Director & CEO)
Nick Bobrow (Deputy Director Operations, Chief Financial Officer & Board Secretary)
Jennifer Czajkowski (Deputy Director, Engagement)
Mark Engstrom (Deputy Director, Collections & Research)
Sandy Bourne (Chief Marketing & Communications Officer)
Brian McCrady (Chief Facilities Officer, Capital Development & Facilities)
Shyam Oberoi (Chief Digital Officer)
Dan Sibley (Chief Human Resources Officer)
Doug Currie (Vice President, Natural History)
Chen Shen (Vice President, World Cultures)
Lory Drusian (Vice President, Exhibition Development & Project Management)
Connie MacDonald (Vice President, Programs, Events & Commercial Services)
Dave Tymchuk (Vice President, Finance)

ROM GOVERNORS SENIOR LEADERSHIP
Susan Horvath (President & CEO)
Marilyn Brown (Vice President, Philanthropy)
Judith John (Vice President, Engagement)
Kirsten Kamper (Vice President, Operations & Campaign)

STAY CONNECTED

facebook.com/royalontariomuseum
@romtoronto
@ROMtoronto
@ROMtoronto

SUPPORT YOUR ROM

Your generous contributions help bring exhibitions, programs, and galleries to life.

rom.on.ca/support
416.586.5660
giving@rom.on.ca

THE DAWN OF EARLY LIFE

Highlighting the strength of the ROM's internationally renowned research and collections

Dinosaur discoveries are a fascinating phenomenon. Part meticulous science, part demanding physical labour, and part luck, they help fuel wonder and curiosity around the strange and astonishing animals that roamed Earth millions of years before we did. With each discovery since the identification of the first dinosaur teeth in the early nineteenth century, our interest continues to grow across scientific, artistic, and cultural endeavours—a trend that promises to grow as palaeontological fieldwork finds greater access and support across the world.

In the new ROM original exhibition *Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur*, we see a vivid picture of *Zuul*'s lush ancient world. We are better able to reflect on its life and extinction. And, in no small way, we are better able to understand our planet—what the future may hold as we grapple with the effects of climate change. More than simply providing us a chance to marvel at their strength, speed, or size, newly discovered dinosaurs such as *Zuul*—which bolster the ROM's world-renowned collections—give us a chance to look back in wonder at what once was, and ask important questions about what might be.

More than only a stunning presentation, the *Zuul* exhibition is a shining example of the level of research that furthers the ROM's global reputation in this field and beyond. And it opens just a month after the announcement of a major gift to establish a new and permanent palaeontology gallery that tells the fascinating story of how life began and evolved on Earth.

Toronto philanthropists Jeff Willner and Stacey Madge have generously committed $5 million to the Royal Ontario Museum for the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life. Their investment will establish a new 10,000-square-foot permanent gallery that explores the beginnings of life on Earth.

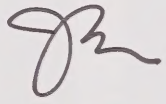
This gallery will open a portal into the remarkable history of life on Earth before the dinosaurs, and how the planet has changed drastically over time. Some of the fossils to be included have been in the ROM's vaults for decades, while others were acquired specifically for the new gallery.

Though the *Zuul* exhibition and the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life explore different species and fossils from different times, they show how the ROM is uniquely positioned to paint a larger picture of the world, to thread together vastly different periods over billions of years, and to understand how life came to be.

In that sense, though eons separate *Zuul* and the simple organisms typical of the Cambrian age, they tell two perspectives of the same story: ours, and how the plants and animals that surround us came to be.

For the ROM, they are both public expressions of the kind of research that has won this institution international recognition for its research in these fields. Dr. David Evans, the lead curator of the *Zuul* exhibition, is recognized globally as an authority on the rich dinosaur fossil record of Canada, and on the mass extinction event that marked the end of the Age of Dinosaurs. Dr. Jean-Bernard Caron, who will oversee the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life, is known the world over for his award-winning research, which focuses on the fossilization and ecology of animals that lived during the Cambrian "explosion" of diversity around 540 to 485 million years ago.

With both installations, we are reminded that our collections truly make the ROM a unique and awe-inspiring place for visitors worldwide. And, particularly in the case of our new gallery, we are reminded that the Earth's story—our shared history—is written in the rocks of Canada.



JOSH BASSECHES
ROM DIRECTOR AND CEO
ROYAL PATRONS CIRCLE MEMBER

DON'T MISS IT

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

COMING SOON

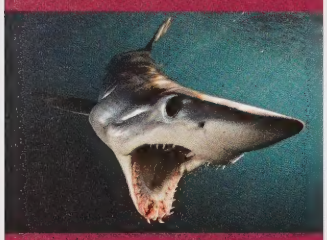
TREASURES OF A DESERT KINGDOM: THE ROYAL ARTS OF JODHPUR, INDIA
IN THE AGE OF REMBRANDT: DUTCH PAINTINGS FROM THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

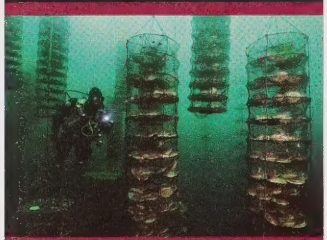
what's on

events / free weekends / member previews

ROMSPEAKS

From fascinating to thought-provoking, ROMSpeaks presents compelling voices on hot topics.





WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR KEYNOTE: LUMINOUS SEAS

Tuesday, December 4, 2018
7 to 8 p.m.

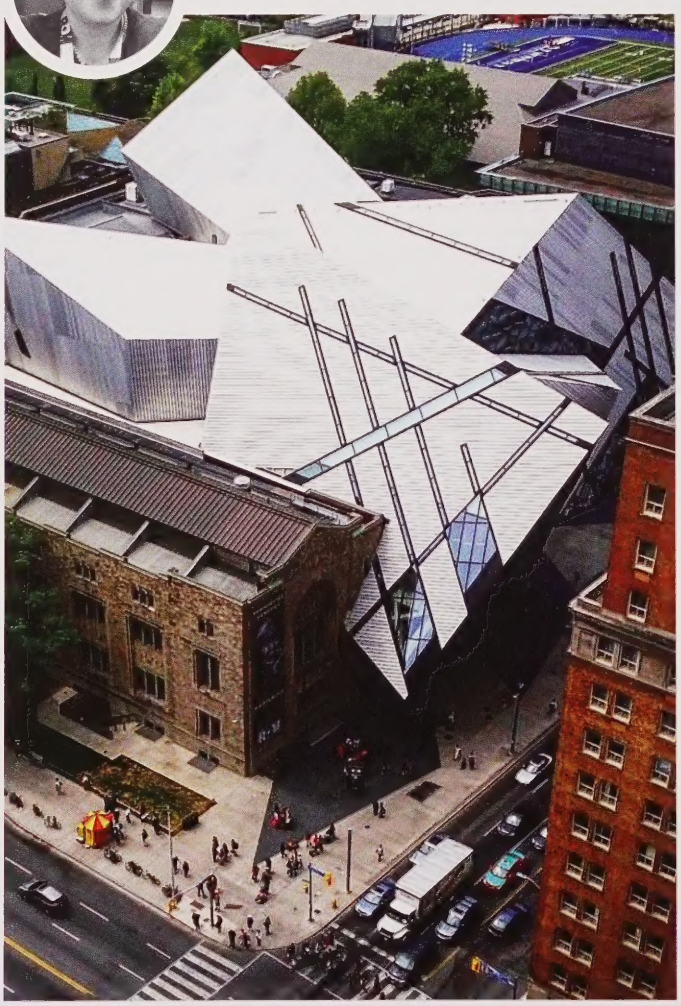
Join *National Geographic* photographer **Brian Skerry** on assignment in the sea. His engaging and visual storytelling highlights the problems facing our oceans and illustrates tangible solutions.

DECEMBER / JANUARY

ROM DAYTIME

104 YEARS OF ARCHITECTURE
Thursday, December 13, 2018
11 a.m to 1 p.m.

Join ROM archivist **Charlotte Chaffey** as she investigates the symbolism, imagery, and lore of some of the ROM's iconic architecture using documents and photographs from the Museum's Library & Archives collections.



ROM FOR THE HOLIDAYS

December 26, 2018 to January 6, 2019

For 12 exciting days, the Museum will be transformed into a fun-filled winter wonderland. Make, discover, and explore at ROM for the Holidays with daily activities and live performances from 10:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., all included with admission.

40TH ANNUAL BISHOP WHITE COMMITTEE WINTER LUNCHEON

WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN
Thursday, January 31, 2019
11:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Speaker: Takako Ito,
Consul General of Japan in Toronto

Despite occasional appearances of influential female figures in its two-thousand-year history, Japan today ranks 114th in the latest Gender Gap Report by the World Economic Forum even though more girls attend universities in Japan than boys. The luncheon features a discussion of the political, economic, social, and educational conditions of women in Japan with Takako Ito, the Consul General of Japan in Toronto, the first woman to be appointed to that role.

Chinese luncheon by the chefs of Lai Wah Heen Restaurant
Venue: Mandarin Ballroom, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 108 Chestnut Street, Toronto
Cost: $100/person (incl. HST and gratuities) with tax receipt for maximum allowable portion.

Proceeds of the Bishop White Committee programs will benefit the East Asian Section of the Royal Ontario Museum.

To purchase your ticket, please call Programs at **416.586.5797** or visit **rom.on.ca/programs**.

Photo of Takako Ito courtesy of the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto. ROM by @alrightunite.

MEMBER EVENTS

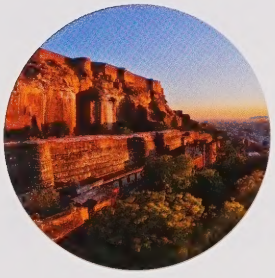
EXCLUSIVE MEMBER PREVIEWS

Free with your membership

ZUUL: LIFE OF AN ARMOURED DINOSAUR
Friday, December 14, 2018
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 15, 2018
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

GODS IN MY HOME: CHINESE NEW YEAR WITH ANCESTOR PORTRAITS AND DEITY PRINTS
Friday, January 25, 2019
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

BEING JAPANESE CANADIAN: REFLECTIONS ON A BROKEN WORLD
Friday, February 1, 2019
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



TREASURES OF A DESERT KINGDOM: THE ROYAL ARTS OF JODHPUR, INDIA
Friday, March 8, 2019
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 9, 2019
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

GIVE THE GIFT OF A ROM MEMBERSHIP

Give the gift of wonder and discovery this holiday season. With a ROM membership your friends and family will enjoy unlimited free admission to ROM galleries and special exhibitions plus exclusive benefits all year long.

Gift purchases must be made by December 11 for delivery within Canada by December 21.

Purchase gift memberships online at **rom.on.ca/membership** or call **416.586.5700**. Use your special ROM Member promo code, **MEMGIFT***, to save.

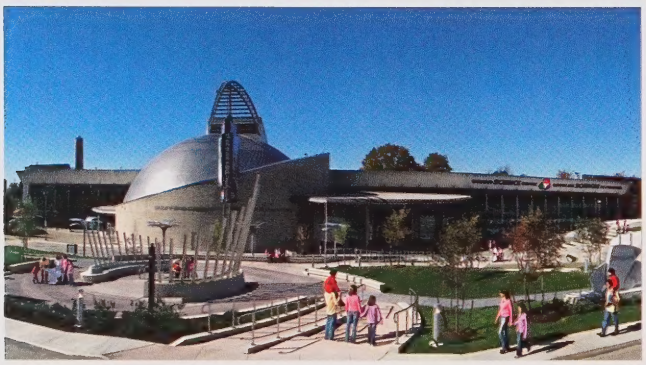
*Discounted gift membership prices are exclusively for existing ROM Members. Discounts valid only on one-year Family/Dual, ROM Social, Individual, Senior Family, Senior Family Two, and Non-Resident membership levels. Discounts cannot be combined with any other offers or discounts.

JOIN IN

Watch for your Member emails about exclusive Member previews, programs, and events. Visit **rom.on.ca/members/events**.

CONTACT US 416.586.5700 | **EMAIL** membership@rom.on.ca | **WEB** rom.on.ca/membership

MEMBER BENEFITS



ROM MEMBER DISCOUNTS

ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE
February 9 & 10, 2019

ROM Members will save 50%* off Ontario Science Centre general admission. Explore more than 500 interactive experiences in the exhibition halls, take in live science demonstrations, and more.

*Discount is valid only when valid ROM membership card and photo ID are presented. Discount applies to general admission only and does not apply to guest privileges, parking, or IMAX films. Discount cannot be combined with any other discount offer.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT OFFERS

GARDINER MUSEUM

ROM Members enjoy 20% off admission to the Gardiner Museum and 10% off at the Gardiner's CLAY restaurant. Call the Gardiner Museum at 416.586.8080 for details before visiting.

ROYAL BC MUSEUM

ROM Members receive a 20% discount on daily admission rates. Offer excludes family admission rate. ROM membership card and ID must be shown at time of purchase.

ROM MEMBERS GET FREE ADMISSION*

*Valid ROM membership card required for entry.

GARDINER MUSEUM
January 12 & 13, 2019
111 Queen's Park, Toronto

TEXTILE MUSEUM OF CANADA
January 18, 19, & 20, 2019
55 Centre Avenue, Toronto

THEMUSEUM DOWNTOWN KITCHENER
April 6 & 7, 2019
10 King Street West, Kitchener

AGA KHAN MUSEUM
May 11 & 12, 2019
77 Wynford Drive, Toronto

ROM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS EXTEND OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM
Bring your ROM membership card with you when you travel and take advantage of reciprocal admission and discounts.

For more information visit **rom.on.ca/members/reciprocal.**

ALLIANCE OF NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS OF CANADA
ROM Members will be granted free general admission or discounted admission, or a gift shop discount at these participating natural history museums: **Beaty Biodiversity Museum**, Vancouver, **Canadian Museum of Nature**, Ottawa, **The Manitoba Museum**, Winnipeg, **New Brunswick Museum**, Saint John, **Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History**, Halifax, **Royal Saskatchewan Museum**, Regina, **Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre**, Whitehorse.

Present your ROM membership card and ID upon arrival. Find out more at **rom.on.ca/membership**.

FREE ADMISSION TO SIX CANADIAN MUSEUMS AND ART GALLERIES
Enjoy free general admission all year long to Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Glenbow Museum, Kamloops Art Gallery, McCord Museum of Canadian History, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, and Vancouver Art Gallery upon presentation of a valid ROM membership card and ID.

MEMBER TOURS AND WALKS

Join fellow ROM Members on exclusive tours and walks on select days throughout the year. Space is limited and registration is required. Members will be notified as tours and walks become available through Member emails. For a list of all Member-related events and programs, visit **rom.on.ca/members/events**.

As a ROM Member, you are an integral part of the social fabric that makes the ROM one of the world's leading museums of art, culture, and nature. Your support provides essential funding for educational programs, research, collections, community outreach, and operations.

Thank you for your continued support.

dispatches

exhibition / partnerships / new acquisition

NEW EXHIBITION

Cool Cat © Isak Pretorius, South Africa

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

The longest-running and most prestigious nature photography competition in the world, *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* returns to the ROM for the sixth year, featuring 100 extraordinary new photographs. Organized by the Natural History Museum, the exhibition showcases the competition's winners and category finalists whose work calls attention to the beauty and fragility of life on this planet.

Wildlife Photographer of the Year is developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, London.

OPENS December 1, 2018

ROMCAN

ROM CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ACCESS

This November, the ROM hosted a special event to celebrate its long history of making the Museum accessible to all communities. It was the 10th anniversary of the ROM Community Access Network (ROMCAN), a program that works with community partners to provide free admission and inclusive museum experiences to all Ontarians, regardless of socio-economic status, ethnicity, age, or abilities.

The program began with three partners in 2008 and has grown to include more than 100 partners. ROMCAN also includes free admission policies for Canadian post-secondary students every Tuesday, Indigenous peoples, and attendants supporting persons with disabilities. Nearly 700,000 visitors have participated in ROMCAN experiences since the program began, including all-access tickets to the ROM's galleries and exhibitions.

Through ROMCAN, the ROM arranges monthly tours for visitors with dementia, along with ASL-interpreted events and sensory experiences. ROMCAN also brings museum experiences to individuals of all ages in their own neighbourhoods, through the offsite program ROM in My Backyard.

Through partnerships with non-profit community organizations in the Greater Toronto Area, ROMCAN is able to extend the Museum's reach to a greater diversity of visitors.

For more information on the ROMCAN program, or to apply for ROMCAN tickets, visit **rom.on.ca/romcan**.

SUPPORT US

Interested in supporting ROMCAN initiatives? Contact Elizabeth Petrova at **416-586-5680** or **epetrova@rom.on.ca**.

Top left photo by Andrew Williamson. Photos by David Coulson.

PARTNERSHIPS

ROM HOSTS INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR CURATORS OF CHINESE ART

The ROM recently had the honour of co-hosting a significant forum for curators of Chinese art. More than 60 curators from major museums around the world converged to discuss ideas about art, globalization, and the important role museums share in breaking down barriers.

The forum, co-hosted by the Bei Shan Tang Foundation in late October, was established 10 years ago. It is a biannual conference that has been held in prominent institutions such as the Museum of Art at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Seattle Art Museum, the Shanghai Museum, the British Museum, and the Palace Museum.

The decision to host it at the ROM this year highlights the importance of the Museum's collections and research, as well as the strong relationships the institution continues to build in China. Earlier this year, the ROM signed two new partnerships while taking part in the Government of Canada's first creative industries trade mission to China.

In 2017 alone, ROM exhibitions were seen by more than one million people in three Chinese museums. The ROM enjoys deep and long-standing partnerships with many museums, universities, and researchers in China and stewards the second-largest collection of Chinese objects outside of China.

Arising from the J. S. Lee Memorial Fellowship Program, the Forum for Curators of Chinese Art was launched in 2009 and aims to provide a free, direct, and open platform for curators of affiliated program institutions as well as J. S. Lee Memorial Fellows to gather and share thoughts. This forum brings together a special global community of curators, fostering interactions to nurture international museum collaborations.

NEW ACQUISITION

Left: 2018.16.2
Below: 2018.16.1

NATURALLY PERFECT FORMS: BURL VESSELS BY STINSON STUDIOS

BY **HEATHER READ**

In late 2017, the ROM acquired two carved burl vessels by Don, Jesse, and Spike Stinson of Tamworth, Ontario. The sculptural bowls, which hew closely to natural forms developed as part of the healing process during the life of the tree, are beautiful examples of contemporary Canadian woodwork. This acquisition was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Jean Timmins Costello Trust.

The pieces of wood used in these works—burls—are scar tissues formed after trees are damaged by storms, animals, or people, infected by disease, or infested with insects. Stinson Studios typically uses burls from maples, birch, and cherry. Once the Stinsons harvest the burls with the help of Northern Ontario logging companies, they bury them under wood chips for 6 to 18 months. This promotes a bacterial culture and fermentation process, known as spalting, which heightens the colours in these unique forms and creates rich, dark patterns. When the bowls are retrieved and the Stinsons begin carving, they must work carefully to ensure the wood does not dry too quickly. Since the growth rings in burls are irregular, there is considerable tension embedded in the core of the material. If it dries too quickly, a burl may fracture.

Stinson Studios, the company operated by Don, Jesse, and Spike with the assistance of seven other staff, has been in operation since 1982. Initially Don worked on his own, after training as a craftsman at Sheridan College. The studio expanded beginning in 2009, as sons Jesse and Spike returned to the studio after university studies. All three Stinson children grew up watching their father in the studio buildings on the family farm, and developed a strong connection to craftsmanship and the creation process.

A main goal all three share when working with burls is to highlight the inherent beauty in the naturally produced forms. Jesse describes the importance of not thinking too hard while carving, because "then you start controlling it more, rather than intuiting the form." Spike carved ROM Accession 2018.16.1, a piece of wood that came from a local logger, Bill Holland. He recalls it was "riddled with bark inclusions," and he was initially concerned that the piece would fall apart while he was carving it. In the end, the inclusions were spaced out enough

Their perspective on craftmaking is influenced by their belief in the importance of minimizing control over nature, and a deep love and respect for the Canadian wilderness.

that they became sporadic holes in the piece, giving it visual interest. Don carved 2018.16.2 and recalls the piece had been buried for a long time before he worked on it. The wood had been a "limb scar" from the McCrae Lumber Company, a three-generations-old logging company working near Algonquin Park. The firm is a frequent partner of Stinson Studios.

Don, Jesse, and Spike describe their woodworking as a way to live, rather than a profession. Their perspective on craftmaking is influenced by their belief in the importance of minimizing control over nature, and a deep love and respect for the Canadian wilderness. Their wooden objects, whether carved burl sculptures, turned serving bowls, or other innovations, are internationally renowned.

One of the burls is set to go on display in the Canadian Arts and Culture Gallery this fall. Both pieces share many concrete and conceptual ties with the historical furniture currently on display, as well as revealing a contemporary perspective on working with wood. We hope you will come and enjoy the work of these Canadian artisans who express, as Don describes, "the perfection of the forms" in our Canadian forests. ■

Visit **stinsonstudios.ca** to learn more about the work of Don, Jesse, and Spike.

Working with live spiders

The ROM's resident spider wranglers discuss the perks and perils of the job

BY **JENNA COSENTINO**

Name
Gil Wizen
Job
Full-time spider wrangler
Previously: Entomologist and photographer

Name
Mateus Pepinelli
Job
Part-time spider wrangler
Previously: Full-time post-doctoral fellow

What does a spider wrangler do?
GW: The responsibilities are primarily taking care of the live arthropods at the museum. This includes feeding, watering, ensuring proper rearing conditions in enclosures for the spiders, and keeping records on special events like moulting, venom extraction, breeding, and mortality. In addition, I am responsible for maintaining live colonies of feeder insects: soldier flies, cockroaches, and crickets. A major component of our role at the spider exhibition is the extraction (or milking) of venom from spiders and scorpions in front of the Museum visitors. The venom is later sent to labs overseas to be used in research. Another aspect of my job is designing display cages to fit spiders' rearing requirements as well as to provide adequate presentation for our visitors. I also work with the media department to produce informative videos for the ROM visitors about our activities and about the biology of our animals.

How long have you been a spider wrangler?
MP: Since I was a kid, I have been fascinated by the little creatures that run the world. I am an entomologist with more than 17 years of experience working on the ecology, taxonomy, and evolution of aquatic insects. My research path has provided me with advanced expertise in the taxonomy and systematics of various insects, with special emphasis on Diptera (the true flies). I have discovered and formally named 22 species of black flies and non-biting midges, and my current project focuses on fossil insects. While serving as a wrangler is my first "official" spider job, I have long been interested in arachnids, and have observed and photographed them since I was an undergraduate student in Brazil.

What's your favourite spider?
MP: There are so many cool spiders among the 48,000 currently known to science that it's hard to choose only one! But if pressed, I would say that the recently discovered Spid-a-boo (*Jotus remus*) jumping spider is at (or near) the top of my list. Despite their minute size (as is typical of jumpers, including the peacock spider), what makes this species special is the behaviour of males during mating. They play peekaboo by waving their paddle-like leg to attract the females.

How many times have you been bitten by a spider? And what was the worst bite you've experienced?
GW: Countless times. This is something that comes with the job, especially if you are involved in doing fieldwork. I call these "accidents" because aside from parasites and blood-sucking arthropods, most stinging and biting arthropods are not out to get us. I only got stung and bitten when I brushed against a spider, startled it, or accidentally squeezed it.

Surprisingly, the worst bite I ever experienced wasn't from a spider. It was the bite of an assassin bug from Amazonian Ecuador. Extremely sharp, pulsating pain that lasted for a few hours. We do not know much about assassin bugs' venom so I was also worried that there might be clinical complications. But I am still alive. The worst experience I had with an arachnid was a scorpion sting. I was searching for insects under stones in the Judean Mountains in Israel, and when I flipped a large rock I got stung by a very small *Compsobuthus* scorpion. It was not a dangerous species, yet the venom was strong enough to make my hand numb for a good few hours. Even after the pain faded, I could still feel discomfort over the following days.

MP: This is an easy one for someone who's collected bloodsucking insects for more than 17 years. After I got a painless mosquito bite near my eyelid during a field trip, the region around the bite became so swollen that I couldn't open my eye. I ended up in the hospital twice, trying to figure out the cause of the swelling, as it didn't initially dawn on me that a single mosquito bite could cause such damage. You should have seen the faces of people who saw me in that state—it was as if they were watching a scene from a horror movie.

Why aren't you afraid of spiders?
MP: Despite the fact that all spiders are venomous, the vast majority do not have venom potent enough to harm humans. More importantly, spiders will invariably try to avoid contact with you. Consequently, the

chance of being bitten is actually minimal. Simply put, there is no reason to be afraid of spiders. In fact, I am fascinated by them and I will try to get close enough to snap a pic whenever I can.

GW: The real question is, Why would I be afraid of spiders? I find them quite adorable, actually. Most spiders are shy and keep to themselves, and even when we encounter them they usually prefer to avoid confrontation and leave. They are not out to get us, and they are beneficial animals, keeping populations of insects (many of which are pests and bloodsuckers) under control. I would be more afraid of larger animals and even humans, because they can sometimes be unpredictable. ◘

Despite the fact that all spiders are venomous, the vast majority do not have venom potent enough to harm humans. Spiders will invariably try to avoid contact with you.

ZUUL'S

JOURNEY

IMAGINING A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ZUUL, THE ROM'S NEWEST ARMOURED DINOSAUR

BY VICTORIA ARBOUR AND DAVID EVANS

Sunlight trickles through the leaves of the Cretaceous forest of ancient Montana. In the undergrowth, a big, old *Zuul* ambles along, snacking on ferns. It has been a busy day, and he is hungry. Breeding season has begun. This afternoon he fought off another younger male attempting to encroach on his territory. This has been his home turf for over a decade, and his flanks bear the scars of the fights of previous mating seasons. He has a few new scrapes and bruises from this round of tail clubbing. Just this morning he smelled the telltale scent of a *Gorgosaurus* passing through the neighbourhood. He could defend himself if he needed to, swiping at its legs with his prickly and clubbed tail, but he will be a little more vigilant than usual.

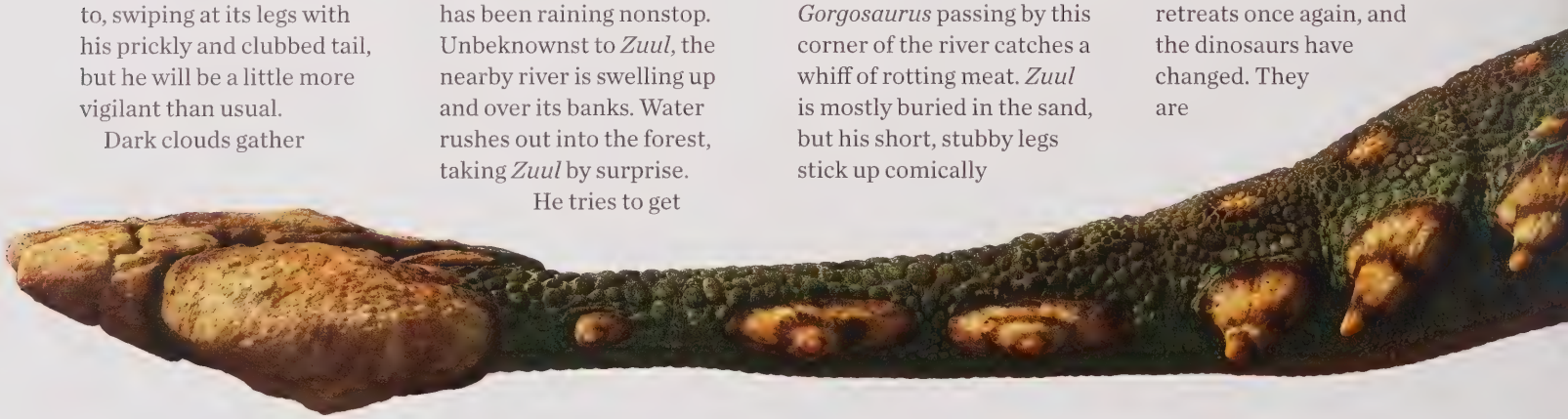
Dark clouds gather overhead. The low trumpet of a hadrosaur, a hatchet-crested *Lambeosaurus*, rolls through the forest. The wind picks up, and fat drops of rain begin to splatter through the leaves and onto *Zuul*'s huge spiky back. The hot, humid climate of the Late Cretaceous provides all of the energy needed to brew huge tropical storms over the Bearpaw Sea. Monsoon season has arrived at Havre River Bend. The rain gets heavier, the wind blows harder, and *Zuul* looks for somewhere to hunker down until the storm passes. When you are as big as a fully grown ankylosaur, it is hard to find good hiding places. *Zuul* settles down next to a big fallen redwood tree—it is as good a place as any. Thunder rumbles in the distance and then a bright flash with a loud crack pops overhead. A feathery *Ornithomimus* skitters away on long, nimble legs. Leaves peel off the sycamore trees and branches smash down onto the ground near *Zuul*. It is a rough night. Hours later the storm is still going strong, and it has been raining nonstop. Unbeknownst to *Zuul*, the nearby river is swelling up and over its banks. Water rushes out into the forest, taking *Zuul* by surprise.

He tries to get up and find drier ground, but loses his footing—the territorial fights over the last few weeks have taken their toll and he is tired and not in peak condition. The current becomes stronger. Ankylosaurs are not really built for swimming. In the waves of rain and debris, *Zuul* slips out of view.

By the next afternoon, the rain has eased up, and the winds have calmed. Life goes on at Havre River Bend, but one less dinosaur roams the forest today. *Zuul*'s body has come to rest pressed against a sandbar a little downstream in the river, partly buried in the sediments. Over the following days and weeks, the river covers *Zuul*'s slowly decomposing body with sand. *Plesiobaena* and *Leidyosuchus* nibble at the exposed pieces of the dead ankylosaur's carcass, although the tough, armoured hide makes this difficult, and sand already obscures much of the body.

One day, about a week after the fateful storm that drowned *Zuul*, a *Gorgosaurus* passing by this corner of the river catches a whiff of rotting meat. *Zuul* is mostly buried in the sand, but his short, stubby legs stick up comically out of the sandbar. The *Gorgosaurus* steps over to the sandbar and noses at one of the outstretched legs. She normally would have avoided approaching an adult male *Zuul* while it was alive. She remembers an unpleasant encounter with one many years ago, when she was still perfecting her hunting techniques. She had waited silently, patiently, to pounce upon the ankylosaur, and before she could even take a bite it had whacked her right in the leg with that clubbed tail. She had limped away, hungry and bleeding. But this *Zuul* will not be fighting back. Opening her jaws, she plucks one of the legs from the carcass and strides away. Perhaps when she is feeling peckish again she will return to claim another.

The sun rises and sets, the moon waxes and wanes, and years, decades, centuries, and millennia slip by. The seashore moves further to the west, inundating Havre River Bend in saltwater. Fish, sharks, and marine reptiles swim above *Zuul*'s grave. More time ticks by, the sea retreats once again, and the dinosaurs have changed. They are



Zuul © Sinking Ship Entertainment Inc.

bigger: *Ankylosaurus* has a skull more than twice as large as *Zuul*'s, and *Gorgosaurus* has a bigger cousin, too—*Tyrannosaurus rex*. Herds of giant *Triceratops* lumber across the landscape in untold numbers. Ten million years have passed since the old male *Zuul* perished in the floodwaters. His skeleton was already a fossil by the time *Tyrannosaurus* stalked *Triceratops* in the ancient Cretaceous forests.

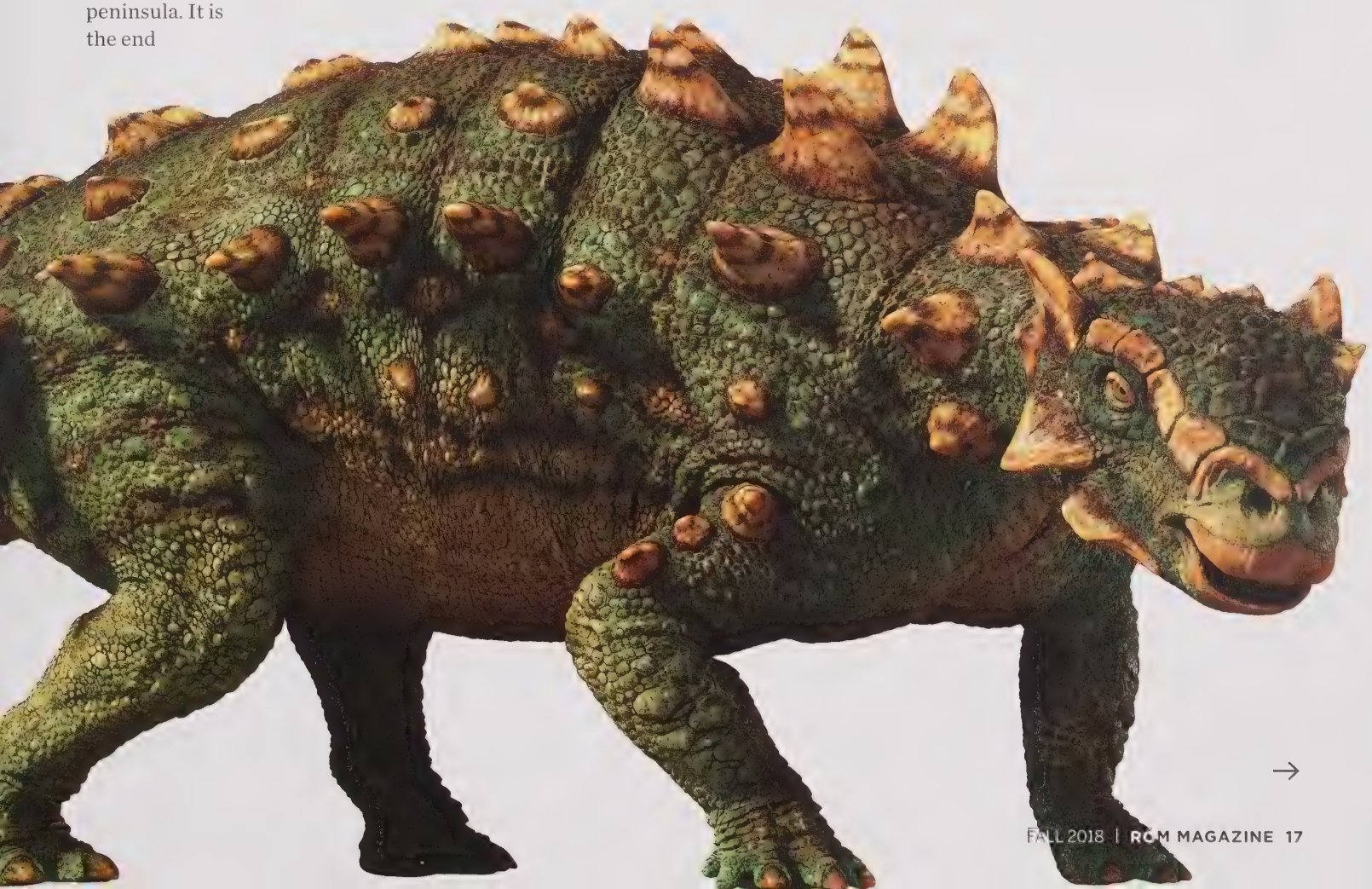
On one particularly bad day for *Ankylosaurus*, *Tyrannosaurus*, and *Triceratops*, an asteroid hurtling toward the sun crosses Earth's orbit at the wrong time and the wrong place, and smashes into what is now the Yucatan peninsula. It is the end of the Age of Dinosaurs and the beginning of one of the most significant extinction events in Earth's history. The impact lights up the sky, throwing debris across North America, causing deadly shockwaves, tsunamis, earthquakes, and wildfires. In the days after the impact, dust thrown into the atmosphere causes the planet to fall into a dark, cold winter that lasts for decades. The food chains collapse, and big dinosaurs can not survive; only small scavengers like lizards, turtles, mammals and birds have a chance to eke out an existence in this harsh, abruptly changed world. Beneath it all, *Zuul*'s fossilized skeleton lies undisturbed by this great turmoil.

Millions of years zoom by. The Earth warms up, then cools off, only to warm up and cool down again. Mammals get bigger and more diverse; their species change over time, just like the dinosaurs that preceded them. *Zuul* keeps sleeping, and another 66 million years tick by on the cosmic clock. One particularly cold snap covers Montana in glaciers that scrape 75 million years of rock away. A few thousand years later, a human with a bulldozer spots a weird fossil, and a couple of palaeontologists get to share the story of one special armoured dinosaur's life. ■

Excerpted from
Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur
ROM Press, December 2018.

HARDCOVER | $27

Available in the ROM Boutique, in bookstores, and online.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF DINOSAURS AT THE ROM

ROM magazine joined the head of palaeontology, David Evans, for a look into the collections

BY **KAT ESCHNER**

Dr. William Parks collecting the ROM's first dinosaur skeleton, *Gryposaurus incurvimanus*, in 1918.

Opposite: The mounted skeleton of *Gryposaurus incurvimanus* (ROM 764), collected 100 years ago by Parks.

IT'S 1918, a blistering hot day in the middle of Alberta's Badlands. Royal Ontario Museum palaeontologist W.A. Parks stands beneath a cross of timbers in a pit, smoking his pipe and staring at the camera. Seen from the vantage of 2018, the image has more weight than Parks knew at the time. It documents a find that forever changed the Museum's history, helping to make the ROM rich in Late Cretaceous dinosaur skeletons.

That image preoccupies the current curator of the ROM's dinosaur collection. "You see that ridge?" David Evans asks me, pointing to a fluted peak in the upper right corner of the image pulled up on his computer screen. That detail is how he and colleagues finally found the location of the dig site that produced the ROM's first dinosaur. Even though it was misidentified as a *Kritosaurus incurvimanus* at first—since ID'ed as *Gryposaurus incurvimanus*, another genus of duck-billed dinosaur—it helped feed the public thirst for evidence of prehistoric worlds and marked the launch of what became, over the course of the century that followed, one of the top collections of dinosaur bones in the world.

The time that many of those dinosaurs hailed from, the Late Cretaceous period, is the pivotal period that culminated in the mass extinction event, killing off the dinosaurs (although it left some avian ones behind, the birds). The western part of North America "is the only place for that kind of study," Evans tells me. Parks and his colleagues were ideally placed to bring ROM expertise to the dinosaur fields of Alberta, bringing back evidence of a lost world that parallels our own. Understanding the Late Cretaceous can prepare us to understand the world we're living in today, during another time of mass extinction. It "can teach us about the biodiversity crisis we face today," he says.

Only partial records of the first, pivotal dig remain: Evans showed me a few photographs, a hand-drawn map, and, of course, the dinosaur that started it all. After the public saw the impressive skeleton in what was then the Royal Ontario Museum of Palaeontology (one of five museums that were eventually consolidated), Evans tells me, there were never any problems with finding funding to go back to the Badlands for more. The early twentieth century was a time of intense exploration for dinosaur hunters around the globe. In the context of this broad interest, the ROM's dinosaur collection grew and grew.

Now, as dinosaurs continue to spark imaginations across cultures (to wit: a fifth *Jurassic Park* movie was released this year, bringing the iconic dino franchise to a new generation of viewers) and palaeontology

Photo courtesy of David C. Evans.

is finding new relevance as scientists grapple with the consequences of climate change, the ROM is preparing to showcase the newest addition to its world-renowned dinosaur collection. *Zuul crurivastator*, named after the *Ghostbusters* villain, is an ankylosaur that made global waves when the ROM announced its discovery just last year. It was significant because of how wonderfully preserved it was: the many spikes of its armour and the definition of its heavy tail, all soft tissue, are all preserved in the ROM's fossil, allowing scientists to do a lot more to envision how the whole dinosaur looked. Although it was found in Montana, not Alberta, it's also the best available example of this Late Cretaceous dinosaur.

From the ROM's perspective, *Zuul* was also a timely discovery: when it's displayed in full splendour alongside other findings from its surrounding dig locations this December, it will make a fitting tribute to the 100-year anniversary of Parks's first addition to the ROM's collection.

Perhaps no one appreciates that history more than Evans. When he was a young boy, the ROM's impressive collection fuelled his interest in dinosaurs. Now, as the ROM's Temerty Chair of Palaeontology, he finds himself straddling both the past and the future of the Museum's ambitions with its dinosaur collection, and he sees them being more important today than ever. "As a kid," he recalls, visiting the ROM's dinosaur collection "was this amazing way to be transported back to an extinct world." Even at a young age he knew he wanted to spend his life studying the lost world of the dinosaurs.

He was instrumental in bringing *Zuul* to the ROM for a unique, interactive exhibit that will excite future dinosaur buffs. "It's one of the most spectacular fossils that's been found in a long time," he says, and he can't wait to see it on the floor. "It's great to see your work and the collection out there on public view," he says, inspiring the next generation of dinosaur buffs. Behind the scenes, *Zuul* also fuels his research.

A century after that first key find, the Museum's palaeontology section occupies nearly a whole floor in the curatorial section, as well as a good chunk of the public galleries. That's where I found Evans, sitting in his office and wearing a characteristic plaid shirt. It's a big room, but a busy one, crowded with books with titles like *Thunder Lizards* and *The Dinosauria*, part of a collection Evans has been working on since he was a teenager. Models of dinosaurs sit between them, and on the work surfaces, some of the tools of his trade. Evans was maybe four years old the first time his parents brought him from the outskirts of the city to visit the ROM's dinosaur collection. Today, he can walk the dinosaur galleries whenever he wants. But the dinosaurs on display are just a small (admittedly important) part of the huge collection he's responsible for. That collection—plus around 70 pallets of not-yet-examined bones stored in a warehouse—is a treasure trove of artifacts from one of the most pivotal times in dinosaur history, and a period highly relevant today.

> *The early twentieth century was a time of intense exploration for dinosaur hunters around the globe.*

The ROM's collection is a testament to interest and labour going back to before that first dig a century ago. But to fully understand it, more work is needed, Evans says. There are lots of dinosaur skeletons whose quarry sights remain lost to time and erosion in Alberta's dinosaur fields, says Evans, and that's a problem for palaeontologists like himself. It's vital for scientists to know where exactly in the layers of rock specific dinosaurs were found. "Every rock layer is not just a repository for a fossil, it represents an environment." After all, dinosaurs lived and cohabited with other animals just like birds and land mammals today. If palaeontologists don't know where a dinosaur was found, exactly, they can't really understand its contextual meaning or connect it with other fossils. →

Today, when a dinosaur dig happens, researchers closely monitor the fossil's placement in the rocks. But things used to be a little more informal, which means sometimes Evans has found himself trudging through the Badlands, holding a photograph, and looking for some—any—identifying details that might help him find an old dig site. He did this with the 1918 photographs of Parks, and that fluted ridge he pointed out to me enabled him to find the dig location, learning more about the dinosaur's provenance.

In 1935, Parks wrote about how his expeditions in the Badlands were conducted. "A camp is established and prospecting begins," Parks explained. "The sides of the buttes and the walls of the gorge are carefully examined for bones, and never is there any difficulty in finding them." But there's a difference, he wrote, between finding individual dino bones and finding a complete or partial skeleton, as he did in 1918 and again in 1920, providing the first two great finds in the ROM's impressive collection.

The dinosaur that Parks's team found in 1920 can also be seen in the permanent gallery today. Its full name is *Parasaurolophus walkeri*—named by Parks for the chair of the ROM's board of trustees at the time, Edmund Walker. The crown jewel of the ROM collection, it's one of the most important dinosaurs, in Evans's estimation, ever to be found. Its likeness can be seen in dinosaur books and reproduced in museums across the world, but at the ROM, you can see the real thing. Its most noticeable characteristic is the six-foot-long tube sticking out of its head.

Like *Gryposaurus, P. walkeri* is one of the duck-billed dinosaurs, a large family of herbivores that Evans refers to as "the cows of the Cretaceous." In that period, he says, as many as two of five dinosaurs may have been duck bills, grazing the landscape like deer and moose in more recent times. The unique head crest of *Parasaurolophus*—which Evans describes as "like you stuck a trombone on its head"—points to the possible function of this strange headgear. Evans and other researchers believe that it was used for noise-making, meaning that the hooting calls of these big herbivores would have echoed across the prehistoric badlands.

For about 80 years, Evans says, it was the only good specimen of this iconic dinosaur, and it stood as a powerful example of "how weird dinosaurs are," he says, exciting minds and fuelling research. It would never have been found, he says, without the 1918 expedition that brought back the first ROM duckbill to pique public interest.

Duckbills like these two were Evans's first love when he began studying dinosaurs as a young adult, so it is fitting that the collection he's come to care for has so many examples of them. Evans, with his lifelong passion for the collection, straddles the ROM's past and its future. He's still working to understand that past, but he's also trying to present dinosaurs like *Zuul* in a way that's relevant today. If anything can prepare us for our warming planet, it may be looking to the distant past, he tells me, but STEM fields like palaeontology are still undervalued. "If there is anything I can do to change that culture, I'll do it," he tells me. That's one of the reasons he tries to be available to the kids who come to the ROM to gaze in wonder at the permanent collection or visit the special exhibits he has curated over the years. Some ask him questions, he says, or want to follow up later, and he always tries to make time. Years ago, he says, "I was that kid." ◘

W. A. Parks and his team in Alberta's badlands, 1918 (left). The fluted ridge in Parks's photograph allowed David to find the exact same dig location 9 decades later.

Photos courtesy of David C. Evans.

Celebrating Christian Dior's New Look

New publication by Dr. Alexandra Palmer presents ground breaking research on the stunning creations of Christian Dior

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **LAZIZ HAMANI**

Caracas
Spring/Summer 1957
Occasion: Late Afternoon

Auteuil

Autumn/Winter 1948–49 | Occasion: Day

Batignolles

Spring/Summer 1949 | Occasion: Late Day

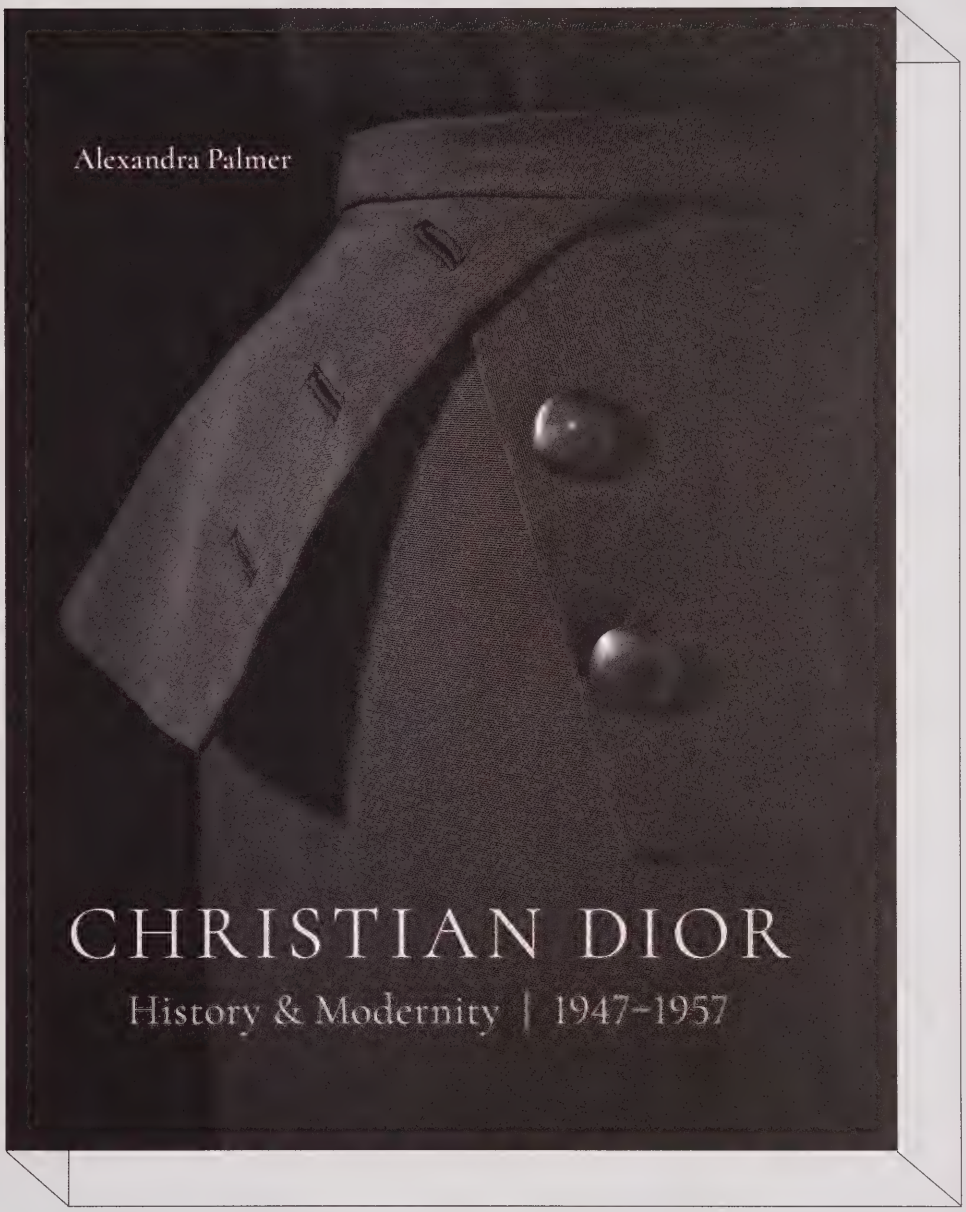
Zémire

Autumn/Winter 1955–56 | Occasion: Late Afternoon

Douze Douzièmes

Spring/Summer 1951 | Occasion: Evening

now available



Arguably the most famous fashion designer of the twentieth century, Christian Dior created the New Look that was desired, worn, and emulated by women around the world in the 1950s. Alexandra Palmer breaks new ground by explaining what it was about the style, cut, and feel of the designs that stimulated the entire Paris haute couture industry after the devastation of the Second World War. She uncovers House signatures of modern cut and construction based on historical dressmaking techniques that were revived and adapted to postwar feminine needs. She highlights the importance of the seamstresses and tailors in the ateliers, and the designers and makers of innovative textiles and embroideries.

Christian Dior is drawn from close analyses of the Royal Ontario Museum's Christian Dior haute couture collection (1947–1957), wedded with extensive research, sketches, and documentary material from Dior Héritage, archival images, technical analyses and patterns by Berta Pavlov, and striking photographs of the Museum's garments taken by world-renowned Dior photographer Laziz Hamani. *Christian Dior* is an essential read for those interested in fashion, art, culture, and history. ◘

Alexandra Palmer is the Nora E. Vaughan Senior Curator, Textiles & Fashions at the Royal Ontario Museum

HARDCOVER | $49.95 | 9" × 12" | 280 PAGES

Available in the ROM Boutique, in bookstores, and online.

Biggest & Baddest Arachnids Around

Live spiders and scorpions on view at the ROM's exhibition, *Spiders: Fear & Fascination.*

BY JENNA COSENTINO

HOW TO SEE IT

Closes January 6, 2019

MEDIA PARTNERS

EXHIBITION PARTNERS

An exhibition developed by the Australian Museum and toured by Flying Fish

Special thanks to the members of the Royal Exhibitions Circle for their support

The Goliath birdeater is the largest spider in the world and can weigh as much as a 170 grams.

THE BIGGEST & BADDEST

Spiders and scorpions are the stuff of nightmares for many people. It is perhaps not surprising that there are so many scary tales about venomous or oversized arachnids. In reality, all arachnids are limited in size because of how they "breathe" (through tiny tubes called trachea). If a spider gets too big, it will need more oxygen than these breathing tubes can deliver. The biggest spider ever recorded had a leg span large enough to cover a dinner plate. It was the Goliath birdeater, found in Venezuela in April 1965.

The Biggest Spiders

The Goliath birdeater—a type of tarantula—is the world's largest spider by weight, tipping the scales at up to 175 grams. It is also among the largest in its proportions, with a body length of up to 12 centimetres and a leg span up to 28 centimetres. Birdeaters dwell in the upland rainforests of northern South America, where they eat pretty much anything that's smaller than them—including frogs, lizards, rodents, and, yes, even birds! However, their venom is relatively harmless to humans, equivalent to a wasp sting in terms of pain.

Goliath birdeater
Theraphosa blondi

The Baddest Spiders

The Brazilian wandering spider and the Sydney funnel-web spider of Australia are considered the two most venomous species to humans. The former—also known as the banana spider—is perhaps more dangerous because it is an active hunter that roams about, often crawling into fruits and flowers that people consume or cultivate. However, human deaths attributed to bites are hard to verify given the enormous range of this species in South and Central America. As of 2008, just 10 deaths were confirmed in Brazil.

Brazilian wandering spider
Phoneutria fera

The Baddest Scorpions

Deathstalker scorpions inhabit desert and scrubland habitats from North Africa through the Middle East. Considered among the world's most venomous scorpions, the deathstalker produces a cocktail of neurotoxins. Stings from this scorpion, although excruciatingly painful, are typically not sufficient to kill an adult human. However, young children and elderly or infirm people are at much greater risk. On a more positive note, deathstalker venom shows potential for treating brain tumours and diabetes. ◘

Deathstalker scorpion
Leiurus hebraeus

For those interested in a closer look, these live specimens can be viewed at the exhibition *Spiders: Fear & Fascination*.

FROM PAINFUL VENOM TO VERY LONG LEGS, THESE SPIDERS HAVE SOME VERY INTERESTING (AND USEFUL) FEATURES.

Indian ornamental tarantula, *Poecilotheria regalis*
This species is unique among tarantulas, because it has potent venom that can cause intense pain.

Brazilian whiteknee tarantula, *Acanthoscurria geniculata*
This spider defends itself by kicking off a cloud of stinging hairs that can irritate skin and eyes.

Asian forest scorpion, *Heterometrus spinifer*
One of the largest scorpions in the world, this species crushes its prey in its strong pincers, instead of stinging.

Cameroon huntsman spider, *Barylestis scutatus*
This is a swift hunter that can take down prey larger than its body size.

Amazonian whip spider, *Heterophrynus batesii*
This species has the longest leg span of all whip spiders.

Photos by Shutterstock. Brazilian wandering spider by Sakki-Duran.

Holiday Shopping at the ROM

FROM CUSTOM DESIGNED SPIDER TEXTILES, TO HANDWORKED FURNITURE AND ELEGANT ACCESSORIES, ART AND NATURE ARE AN EXQUISITE COMBINATION AT THE ROM BOUTIQUE

Jan Barboglio
Silla Trenzada saddle chair
Iron chair with hand-woven and -stitched English bridle leather
$3,400

Jan Barboglio
saddle stool
Iron bench with hand-woven and -stitched English bridle leather
$1,900

Scarf
Designed by Christa Louise
Silk & merino wool
$149.99

Spider sleeveless tee
100% cotton
Printed with phthalate-free non-toxic ink
$64.99

Spider kimono
Designed by Dahlia Drive
$249.99

OCTOBER 6 TO 25, 2019

TOP OF THE WORLD

BHUTAN, NEPAL, AND TIBET

Steeped in Buddhist and Hindu traditions, these three fascinating destinations lie nestled up against the Himalayas. Delightful Bhutan offers its unique architecture, a textile museum, and an unforgettable journey to the Tiger's Nest monastery. In Nepal, view the ancient royal cities of the Kathmandu valley, and enjoy a jungle safari in Chitwan National Park. Mysterious Tibet reveals the magnificent Potala Palace and the stunning landscape of the Tibetan plain.

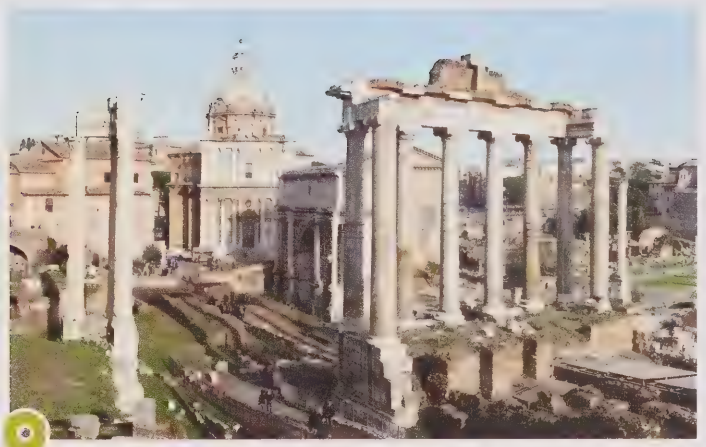
Photo by Afifa Afrin.

COMING UP...

SOUTH AFRICA

Rhinos, dinos, diamonds, and wine—see this magnificent country with palaeontologist David Evans.

MARCH 1 TO 15, 2019



ROME AND BEYOND

Journey through the ages from the Etruscans to modern times with historian Ken Bartlett.

MAY 6 TO 16, 2019

HAIDA GWAII

Visit one of the richest biological and cultural areas in North America, known as Canada's Galapagos.

JUNE 7 TO 16, 2019

SOUTH INDIA

Experience vibrant tropical landscapes, stunning opulent temples, and charming hospitable people.

FEBRUARY 17 TO MARCH 5, 2020

ROMBus

GREAT SCOT, IT'S CHRISTMAS!

Discover the Scottish influence in early nineteenth-century Ontario while touring two historic homes decorated for the holidays. After a Scottish-themed tour of the home of Sir William Campbell, enjoy a festive lunch at the Pipes and Taps with Celtic music and poetry. We finish at Dundurn Castle, decked out for Christmas and Hogmanay (New Year's Eve).

ROM Members: $110 Non-members: $120

December 4, 2018

TRAVEL WITH US

For information on upcoming trips, contact ROMTravel at

416.586.8034

travel@rom.on.ca

rom.on.ca/travel

Haida Gwaii and South India by Shutterstock. South Africa and Rome by WikiCommons. Holly by Icons Producer from the Noun Project.

REIMAGINE YOUR LEGACY

In ways both big and small, philanthropy shapes the ROM

I am incredibly fortunate to work 50 footsteps away from the ROM's stunning galleries. Even on my busiest days, I make a point to engage with a different object that tells a layered, meaningful story.

With every tiny fossil or pottery shard that is carefully catalogued, ROM experts and supporters help to steward the world's artistic, cultural, and natural heritage for future generations. Our collection of 13 million objects is a legacy of how our ancestors thought and lived, a testament to the plants and animals they collected and used, and a beautiful record of the art they created and valued.

Our stories in this issue explore the powerful notion of legacy. Many of us associate "legacy giving" with leaving a gift to a family member or institution in a will, which is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to ways of making an indelible mark on your Museum.

This month, we begin our new Lives & Legacies series, introducing you to Wendy and Leslie Rebanks (on page 33), whose gift is enabling post-doctoral students to learn from the ROM's world-class curators—a powerful educational legacy she is witnessing first-hand.

ROM Governor Jeff Willner is also beginning his incredible legacy at the ROM with a recent $5-million donation to establish the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life. His remarkable generosity is enabling the ROM to create a new and permanent palaeontology gallery that tells the fascinating story of how life began on Earth. In the next issue of *ROM* magazine, you'll be able to read more about this exciting gift and new gallery—a true testament to the strong spirit of giving in our community with 100 donors making gifts ranging from $10 to $5 million.

I hope you feel inspired by these diverse stories of giving, and I invite you to reimagine the ways you too may create a legacy of ROM memories for yourself, your family, and your community.

Susan

SUSAN HORVATH
PRESIDENT & CEO
ROYAL PATRONS CIRCLE MEMBER, CHAMPION LEVEL

GET IN TOUCH

416.586.8055
susanh@rom.on.ca
rom.on.ca/support
@SusanH_ROM

CELEBRATING NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY

On November 15, the ROM joined Canadians to mark National Philanthropy Day. Every day, ROM supporters and volunteers make the amazing possible, whether it is helping a little girl to discover her love of insects, enabling a class to experience their Museum, or sponsoring a powerful exhibition. Philanthropy is "the love of humankind," but here at the ROM we think of it as "the love of our supporters" who go above and beyond. Thank you!

BE FIRST TO MEET ZUUL!

ROM Patrons and Corporate Members will be among the first to experience *Zuul: Life of an Armoured Dinosaur*, presenting sponsor Sinking Ship Entertainment Inc., at the exclusive opening party on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. Come face to face with this exciting new species of armoured dinosaur unveiled by ROM scientists! Exhibition previews are just one of the special perks of being a ROM Patron. Learn more at **rom.on.ca/support**.

Presenting Sponsor:
Sinking Ship Entertainment

Photograph (right): Roger Yip. *Zuul* illustration © Sinking Ship Entertainment.

ROM BALL

Celebrate the exhibition opening of *Treasures of a Desert Kingdom: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India* at the ROM Ball, a spectacular red carpet gala with honoured guests **HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA GAJSINGH II** of Marwar-Jodhpur and his daughter **BAIJILAL SHIVRANJANI RAJYE** of Marwar-Jodhpur.

To reserve a table of ~~$15,000~~ SOLD OUT, $25,000, or $50,000, please contact Whitney Dowers at 416.586.8064 or wdowers@rom.on.ca.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 6, 2019

HONORARY CHAIR: Dan Mishra

CO-CHAIRS:
Deepak and Neera Chopra, Victor and Maureen Dodig

ROM BALL COMMITTEE: Isabel Alves-Vettoretto, Jennifer Ivey Bannock, Stephen Bowman, Jayshree Khimasia, Vikram Khurana, Patricia Olasker, Anjli Patel, Jennifer Smuschkowitz, Robin Turack, Monica Virmani

This exhibition is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston with the collaboration of the Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Jodhpur, India.

PRESENTING SPONSOR

CIBC

MEDIA SPONSORS

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

TORONTO LIFE

rom.on.ca/support

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NO. 13628 2126 RR0001

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

Thank you for golfing with heart!

From all of us at the Royal Ontario Museum, THANK YOU for participating in our third annual ROM Classic Golf Tournament on September 13, 2018.

This year, you generously raised more than $120,000 net, enabling diverse communities to discover and delight in art, culture and nature at their Museum. We'll see you again next year on September 12, 2019!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

SUPPORTING SPONSOR

Semple Gooder Roofing Corporation EST. 1947

EAGLE SPONSORS

CIBC

Blakes

BIRDIE SPONSORS

ICON

AIR CANADA

HOLE SPONSORS

AMS Allen McDonald Swartz LLP

BT/A

CHUBB

Nita and Don Reed

ROM Board of Trustees

RCM

Seenergy Foods Limited.

Sionna Investment Managers

SOM Shields O'Donnell MacKillop LLP

WESTBURY NATIONAL

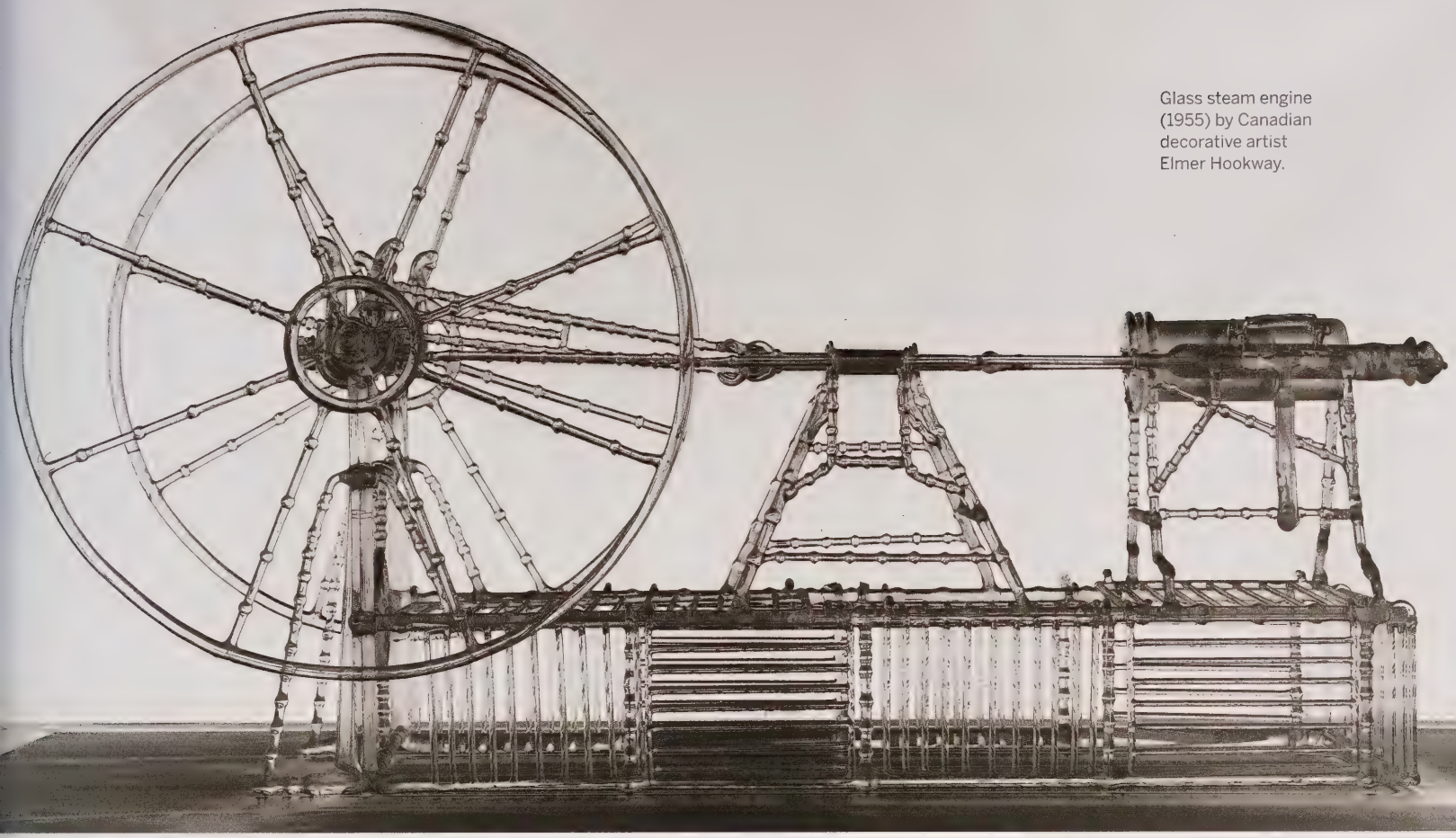
IN-KIND PARTNERS

flow alkaline spring water

hatch

McSWEENEY'S

mike & mike's organics



Glass steam engine (1955) by Canadian decorative artist Elmer Hookway.

A DECADE OF EXCELLENCE

The Rebanks post-doctoral fellowship promotes innovative lines of inquiry across art, culture, and nature

The ROM's collections are a springboard for discovery, inspiring wonder and promoting learning for our diverse communities. And for outstanding up-and-coming scholars advancing bold research ideas at the Museum, they are the focus of innovative lines of inquiry across art, culture, and nature.

Thanks to a generous gift from Wendy and Leslie Rebanks in 2007, the ROM continues to advance its position as a leading intellectual enterprise. The Wendy & Leslie Rebanks Fellowship nurtures scholarly leadership by providing two young, dynamic thinkers the opportunity to work alongside the Museum's world-renowned experts and collections for a two-year period.

To date, seven Rebanks post-doctoral fellows have been able to pursue their boldest ideas in research and programming at the Museum, including incumbents Dr. Sushma Jossey and Dr. Heather Read. We recently invited these emerging thought leaders to highlight their respective programs.

Sushma Jossey, Rebanks Fellow in Natural History, together with ROM technician Oliver Haddrath, is working on assembling and analyzing the complete genome of a Northwest Atlantic blue whale salvaged by the Museum in 2014. Once completed, this genome will serve as a reference for studying the genetic diversity and historic population dynamics within North Atlantic blue whale populations. Not only will this research provide critical insight into blue whale biology, physiology, and evolution, it may also inform ongoing conservation efforts by expanding our understanding of the effects of whaling.

Heather Read, Rebanks Fellow in Canadian Decorative Arts, focuses on diverse craft histories in Canada. In collaboration with Arlene Gehmacher, ROM Curator of Canadian Paintings, Prints & Drawings, Read is assisting with gallery refreshments and acquisitions for the Canadian decorative arts collection. She is also working on a manuscript about uncommon craft histories, including a glass steam engine in the ROM's permanent collection.

Another significant project at the ROM builds on Read's previous post-doctoral work with the Landscapes of Injustice Project, a national initiative examining the forced sale of Japanese-Canadian property during the 1940s. This effort culminates in the exhibition *Being Japanese Canadian*, which is based on this era and its ongoing effects.

LEARN MORE

To learn how you can support transformative research opportunities at the ROM, please contact Katie McMillan at **katiem@rom.on.ca** or **416.586.5582**.

A COLLECTION OF LEGACIES

Celebrating those who have supported the ROM in the most enduring way possible in a new **Lives & Legacies** series

Every object in the ROM's collections has a story to tell. And while we reveal for visitors the legacies of past civilizations and of our natural heritage, our collections and programming encompass another kind of legacy: those of individuals, past and present, whose passions endure at their Museum.

In our new Lives & Legacies series in *ROM* magazine, we will profile the stories of those who have helped transform the ROM into one of the world's foremost museums through their legacy gifts. Though many of our curatorial areas were founded with donations of personal collections and critical funding that would be impossible to amass today, this series will celebrate the people across diverse ages, cultures, and incomes who, by including the ROM in their estate plans, are museum builders in their own right.

While any decision to establish a legacy is inherently personal, a common thread uniting these donors is a passion for art, culture, and nature. As ROM Members, Patrons or volunteers, their lives have been transformed by their experiences at the Museum, and affirmed by the commitment to enrich these experiences for generations to come. Also, by making their gift intentions known, these individuals—as members of the Currelly Legacy Society—cultivate further opportunities to more closely connect with their interests through special lectures and behind-the-scenes tours. Many donors find that planning a legacy at the ROM is a richly rewarding process, emboldened by the knowledge that the lifetime or future gift they leave with the Museum will be stewarded as carefully as the many treasures in our collections.

Photo by Roger Yip.

In sharing their stories, we hope that you, too, will be inspired to make your passions an enduring source of wonder and discovery at the ROM. Whether it is a certain curatorial area or a love of learning brought to life through our educational programs, what inspires you can be equally transformative in the lives of our audiences. It is a decision that can inspire a child on a lifelong journey of learning, or advance new discoveries that can profoundly change the way we view and experience our world.

Our storied history began more than 100 years ago, enabled by the generous and foresighted individuals who have shaped the Museum for their time and our benefit.

Photo by Roger Yip. Gift by shanthagawri from the Noun Project.

How will your story help shape our impact today and tomorrow?

ESTABLISHING YOUR LEGACY AT THE ROM

People choose to support the ROM with a lifetime or future gift in many different ways, allowing them to meet their financial and estate planning goals while ensuring that the Museum can continue to inspire a sense of wonder of the world for the generations that follow.

Gifts in Your Will
A charitable bequest is a gift given through your will. It is a simple way to make a significant contribution to the ROM, while maintaining your present financial security.

Gift of Registered Funds
Name the ROM as a sole, partial, or contingent beneficiary of your RRSP or RRIF funds to retain ownership and use in your lifetime. On death, donated plan value results in a tax receipt, avoids probate fees, and reduces overall estate taxes.

Gifts of Life Insurance
A gift of life insurance is an affordable way to make a major gift to the ROM that provides tax relief during your lifetime or to your estate.

Gifts of Securities
By making a direct gift of publicly traded securities to the ROM, you can achieve far greater tax savings than by donating the cash proceeds from the sale of the securities.

Endowment Fund Gifts
When you make a gift to the endowment fund— either today or in your estate plans—you ensure the ROM has a steady source of income to build its diverse collections and programs. You may create a personal named fund with a gift of $25,000 or more.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about leaving a legacy at the ROM, contact Janice Correa at **janicec@rom.on.ca** or **416.586.5578**.

The Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life

THE ROM RECEIVES $5-MILLION DONATION TO INVEST IN A NEW AND PERMANENT PALAEONTOLOGY GALLERY

The Royal Ontario Museum's new 10,000-square-foot palaeontology gallery will cover how life evolved on Earth from its initial stages nearly 4 billion years ago, up to the beginning of the Age of Dinosaurs.

Illustration by Reich + Petch. © Reich + Petch. Courtesy Royal Ontario Museum.

Toronto philanthropists Jeff Willner and Stacey Madge have generously donated $5 million to the ROM for the Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life. This investment will establish a new and permanent palaeontology gallery that tells the fascinating story of how life began and evolved on Earth.

"I'm very pleased to join other leadership donors and the ROM in telling the story of life on Earth through this exciting new gallery—the first of its kind in North America," says Willner. "This is a story for all people, told from a uniquely Canadian perspective, which will help us understand not only our past, but also the world we'll live in tomorrow."

The gallery will present the story of life from its earliest beginnings near 4 billion years ago to the evolution of the first dinosaurs and mammals during the Triassic period (252–201 million years ago). It will interpret and showcase specimens from the ROM's collection of nearly half a million fossils representing invertebrates, vertebrates, plants, microbes, and trace fossils, many of which have never been on public display. On display will be specimens from the renowned Burgess Shale, a half-billion-year-old fossil site in British Columbia, as well as from Canadian UNESCO World Heritage Sites including Joggins Fossil Cliffs, Mistaken Point, and Miguasha National Park.

The Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life has received generous support from additional leadership donors, including Richard M. Ivey & Family, The Salamander Foundation, Elinor Gill Ratcliffe, The Dorothy Strelsin Foundation, The Louise Hawley Stone Charitable Trust, Albert and Barbara Milstein, and The Polk Family Funds.

Visitors can preview the forthcoming gallery onMuseum's second floor. Construction of the permanent gallery is slated to begin in 2019, with an anticipated public opening in spring 2021. ◘

Philanthropy Comes to Life

The Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) is grateful to Jeff Willner for his generous gift of $5 million to establish the future **Willner Madge Gallery, Dawn of Life**–a new permanent palaeontology gallery at the Museum that will tell the fascinating story of how life began on Earth.

Jeff joins a dedicated group of community supporters that is enabling the ROM to share one of the world's greatest collections of early life fossils with the public.

THANK YOU TO ALL SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING LEADERSHIP DONORS RICHARD M. IVEY & FAMILY, ELINOR GILL RATCLIFFE, AND THE SALAMANDER FOUNDATION.

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

rom.on.ca/support

ROM GOVERNORS CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NO. 1362 82126 RR0001

Photo: Josh Basseches, ROM Director & CEO, Jeff Willner, and Susan Horvath, President & CEO, ROM Governors.

Spiders

FEAR & FASCINATION

CLOSES JANUARY 6, 2019

MEDIA PARTNERS

TORONTO STAR thestar.com

CTV

EXHIBITION PARTNERS

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

FLYING FISH

An exhibition developed by the Australian Museum & toured internationally by Flying Fish.
The ROM is an agency of the Government of Ontario.